



Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

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Robert T. Matsui

Serving California's 5th District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, November 5, 2003

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MATSUI ANNOUNCES HISTORIC FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENT PACKAGE FOR SACRAMENTO

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Representative Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) announced today the House and Senate agreed to an historic package of flood control improvements for Sacramento as part of the FY2004 Energy and Water Appropriations conference report.

Sacramento will receive over \$19 million in continued federal funding for critical flood protection projects on the American and Sacramento Rivers. The conference report also includes critical provisions to guarantee the construction of the Folsom Mini-Raise and increase funding for the Common Elements levee improvement project.

“This is a great day for Sacramento,” Representative Matsui said. “Sacramento has waited long enough for this flood protection. I am pleased to see that the region will finally receive the flood protection it needs and deserves.”

Significant to the bill is the inclusion of authorizations for flood control improvements and water supply projects for Northern California. Representatives Matsui and John Doolittle agreed to the package, which was passed by the House earlier this year in the Water Resources Development Act of 2003.

“The historic nature of this package cannot be underestimated. This is a win-win for the entire region,” said Matsui.

Authorization of the Mini-Raise completes a long awaited goal for the region. Located at the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers, Sacramento is the most at-risk river city in the country. At risk are 160,000 homes, the State Capital, over 100 schools, six major hospitals, 26 nursing homes, three major freeways systems, and a regional economy that supports over one million people. Once constructed, the seven-foot raise of Folsom Dam will allow the flood control system to handle a storm far greater than anything in the recorded history of the watershed.

Benefits of the Mini-Raise also extend into Folsom, as the project calls for a new permanent bridge to be built in place of the current Folsom Dam Road, which was closed in February due to security concerns.

Today's agreement by the House and Senate appropriators virtually guarantees the flood protection package will pass Congress and be signed by the President this year. The bill will now go to the House and Senate floor for final approval.

A breakdown of the funding is attached:



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FUNDING FOR SACRAMENTO FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS AS INCLUDED IN THE FY 2004 ENERGY AND WATER CONFERENCE REPORT

- \$4 million for the construction of the Folsom Dam Mini-Raise, \$600,000 of which is designated to build a new bridge over the American River
- \$4 million for levee improvements along the American River
- \$4 million to modify the Folsom Dam for greater flood management and storage efficiency
- \$3.5 million to prevent flooding from South Sacramento Streams
- \$2 million to correct erosion along the banks of the American and Sacramento Rivers
- \$1.5 million to evaluate flood damage reduction and economic restoration in California's Central Valley
- \$50,000 for a feasibility study on restoring 100-year flood protection to the Chicken Ranch Slough drainage to the American River

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